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MEMORANDUM

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TO : TOLSON

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CUBAN SITUATION

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[R] - ITEM IS RESTRICTED

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

SECRET

Memorandum

SSCI BOX # 377-

TO : MR. TOLSON

DATE: November 8, 1961

FROM : A. H. BELMONT

SUBJECT: CUBAN SITUATION

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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05 RMB/EF 3/1/94

With reference to the Director's discussion with the Attorney General today, I called Brigadier General Edward G. Lansdale at the Pentagon and at his request made arrangements for him to come to my office at 9:30 A. M. on November 9 for the purpose of furnishing him any information that might be helpful in his current assignment on Cuba. In addition to myself, I have arranged for Inspector James Haverty, Section Chief Sterling Donahoe, and Supervisors Richard Cotter and Vincent Nasca to be present, if the Director approves.

When I talked to General Lansdale he said he was going to Fort Meade this afternoon, which is the headquarters of the National Security Agency. We also learned informally he would be seeing Richard Goodwin of the White House this afternoon. General Lansdale said that he knew this Cuban situation was in our backyard and that the FBI would know better than he does what the situation was, particularly as to information pertaining to anti-Castro groups in this country. He said he would like to go over this situation with us and ask questions which might assist him.

We propose to approach this as follows:

- (1) We will point out that we do not, of course, have intelligence coverage within Cuba since our Legal Attaches were kicked out by Castro. We have developed sources within Cuban refugee groups who furnish us information on Cuba and on the activities of anti-Castro groups here in the United States. We have disseminated voluminous information to the military agencies along this line.
- (2) As of possible assistance, we will give him copies of our Current Intelligence Analysis dated October 18, 1961 and November 8, 1961 (copies attached), which respectively show the thoroughly disorganized state and factionalism of Cuban activities in the United States and the present economic situation in Cuba.

AHB:haw

(5) Xccw

Enclosures

REC-54

Memo to Mr. Tolson EX-105
from Mr. Belmont
RDC done 11-9-61
Let to RDC
SBD and 11-9-61

100-133360
REVIEWED BY FBI/JFK TASK FORCE
ON 3/27/94
EX-105 IN FULL
MAR 20 1961
EX-105 IN PART

COPY FOR MR. TOLSON

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~~SECRET~~

Memorandum to Mr. Tolson

SSCI BOX # 377-

(3) We will also give him copies of the 20-page Miami report dated August 10, 1961, and a 20-page letterhead memorandum dated October 4, 1961, both of which give an excellent rundown on anti-Castro organizations in the United States and their present status.

1B (4) If you agree, we will furnish him a copy of our April 28, 1961, memorandum (copy attached) which we forwarded to the Attorney General on April 28, 1961. This memorandum shows the FBI coverage of Castro activities in the United States, including the July 26 Movement, the Fair Play for Cuba Committee, ~~Cuban officials and establishments~~ (S) Cuban intelligence activities, coordination with other United States agencies, and Cuban refugees. We prepared this for the Attorney General's assistance in connection with two National Security Action Memoranda referred to us by the Attorney General.

(5) On April 28, 1961, we sent a letter to the Attorney General entitled "The Cuban Situation" in which we outlined five possible measures short of invasion that could bring about the collapse of the Castro regime; namely, a total embargo; diplomatic isolation of Cuba; ~~support of Cuban rebels within Cuba~~ increased propaganda broadcasts to Cuba; use of responsible anti-Castro refugees to propagandize the masses of people in Latin America. A copy of this memorandum is attached. If you agree, we will abstract these five points from the memorandum to the Attorney General and furnish them to General Lansdale for his assistance.

(6) We will advise General Lansdale we are prepared to discuss any aspects of our activities which may be helpful to him. Mr. Haverty will be available to comment on conditions in Cuba up to the time he left. Messrs. Nasca and Cotter are in a position to discuss in detail intelligence data we have developed and the activity of anti-Castro groups in this country. Mr. Donahoe and I will handle policy and control the meeting.

In the event the Director desires that this meeting be held in his office or to otherwise attend or meet General Lansdale, we will be guided accordingly.

ACTION:

For the Director's approval.

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